



## Cranks and "Bugs" Infest Gotham's City Hall

NEW YORK.—As the flame attracts the moth, so does city hall attract cranks and "bugs" and "nuts"—more than any other spot on earth. But none of them can get by Lieut. "Bill" Kennel, the big cop who guards that sacred sanctum, the mayor's office. "A soft answer turneth away wrath," quotes "Bill," meaning thereby that with the average crank, man or woman, who comes to see the mayor about renting city hall or selling him a charm for several millions whereby his mayoralty chair is insured to him forever—some of the actual things that have happened in the past—the best way to handle them is the easiest way. Then you get their confidence and their good will. "We have not as many of them in these days as years ago," says "Bill." "Nowadays they write letters. Recently a fellow called around to give the mayor a solution for the problem of the unemployed. 'Judge Gary,' he said, 'doesn't know anything about the game'—it will be recalled that Mr. Gary was head of the mayor's committee on employment—and I want to give him the real solution."

"The mayor is very busy today," I told him. "But if you tell me your scheme I'll be glad to inform him." "Well, you see, it's this way," said the caller. "You know, I own the municipal building and I don't like its architecture. So I propose to tear it down. That will give employment to thousands. Of course, I will rebuild it. But in the meantime thousands of men, working four shifts a day, will have a job. Five dollars a day to each. Send me the bill." And he walked off.

"Then there is a bearded Russian who wears sandals and linen clothes who drops into the city hall every so often to interest the mayor in his 'back-to-nature' cult. 'I am a real descendant of Adam,' he says, 'and when we get our Garden of Paradise none of us will wear clothes. I'm sure the mayor would give me a million—he owes it to me—if I could see him, so that I could buy the place.' " "He's trying to raise that million," says "Bill," every time the back-to-nature man appears.

The walking bugs—that is, the fellows who start to walk from New York to San Francisco or around the world—are the real pests of city hall. They all want a letter from the mayor, or to have their records filed. More than once has "Bill" rolled down the steps in his fight with a crank.

## Memphis Preparing to Dedicate Immense Bridge

MEMPHIS, TENN.—Almost on the spot where De Soto stood when he first gazed upon the Father of Waters rests the eastern pier of the great Harahan bridge that spans the Mississippi river, connecting Tennessee and Arkansas. The bridge, with its approaches, is three miles long, has cost \$8,000,000 and will be fully completed this winter and formally dedicated next April. It will have required three years and a half to build. In its construction 23,000 tons of steel are used.

The spans over the channel of the river total one mile, while on the Arkansas side there are two miles of steel and stone construction over the low river bank district. The bridge is 55 feet above the highest water ever known. This will permit steamboats to pass under it at high water without passing through a draw. When the river is at extremely low stage the upper works of the bridge tower almost 150 feet above the surface of the river.

Two railroad tracks cross the bridge, besides a spacious driveway for wagons and automobiles, and sidewalks for foot passengers. Wagon and foot traffic will pass free of charge.

The celebration of the completion of the bridge, which will be held next April, will be the occasion of the greatest pageant ever held in this part of the Mississippi valley. Assurances have been secured from the navy department that battleships, submarines and other vessels will participate in the celebration. Among the craft will be floats of historical character, and the fact that the Memphis pier rests on or near the spot where De Soto discovered the river will be made the basis of a celebration in honor of the great Spaniard.

## Old Men's Workshop Is Unique New York Charity

NEW YORK.—The Old Men's workshop, conducted by the New York association for improving the condition of the poor, is giving respectable, elderly men a chance to remain self-supporting and an opportunity to pass the evenings of their lives in something else beside idle and eventless days. Another purpose of the workshop is to provide light work for men temporarily handicapped by sickness until they can go back to a man's full-fledged job. The working capacity of none of these men is great and their tasks must be comparatively easy.

As a result, the workshop schedule calls for six hours a day and the minimum wage paid is about 60 cents a day. The average attendance at the shop during the year is about 70, running as high as 100 in the winter and dropping to 40 in the summer, as many of the men are able to secure some kind of light out-of-door work during the latter period. The association makes an effort to get them such, using the shop only as a last resort when nothing else can be found for them.

At the present time the shop is especially busy turning out toys which are being sent into all of the hospitals and the homes where children are suffering from infantile paralysis. They are also being sent to children who, while free from the disease, have been quarantined in their homes because of the removal of some member of the family to a hospital.

## Little Snake Causes Quakes in the Quaker City

PHILADELPHIA.—When a 12-inch snake wriggled its way across Chestnut street near Twelfth the snake toward the curbstone scores of men and women looked, stopped and then edged away as the reptile approached nearer. Several exceptionally timid women fled, terror-stricken. A snake on Chestnut street was not an everyday occurrence.

Finally a group of men, braver than their fellows, formed a circle around the snake. It lifted its head once, wriggled its tail and the crowd broke for cover. A reserve policeman approached, took a look and advised the bystanders to move away.

"That's a rattlesnake," he said. "I guess I better call for the cruelty wagon." As he departed a man approached who has known snakes all his life. To the astonishment of the spectators he bent down, picked up the snake and walked away. He had recognized it as a "De Kay variety" snake, the smallest of North American species and one of a harmless variety. It is believed that the snake crawled into an automobile in some out-of-town garage and dropped to the street upon its arrival in the city.

### QUITE AMENABLE.

"This Texas capitalist says he is going to show those New Yorkers a thing or two."

"Well, if one of the things he shows them is his bank roll, they won't object."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

### NOT FAR WRONG.

"A-u-t-o-c-r-a-c-y," spelled Tommy, reading aloud. After a pause, he pronounced it triumphantly. "Autocracy."

And he wondered why his father laughed.

### AT HER WORST.

Danuel (hard at work at the piano)—I sing my best when he is near. Rude man (in a tragic whisper as he turns over the music)—He can't have arrived yet!

## MILES OF OCEAN BOTTOM SEARCHED

Diver Tells of Difficulty in Locating Wreck of Treasure Ship.

## CASH AND SILVER BULLION

Other Wrecks Are Found by Treasure-Hunting Crew, One of Them Apparently Being That of a Steamer.

Norfolk, Va.—Searching for a sunken ship on which there is over \$1,000,000 in money and silver bullion, the treasure-hunting crew of 34 men under the command of Capt. George Stillson, a master diver, inventor and expert in submarine engineering, is not proving an easy task, Stillson says.

The treasure-laden ship is, or was, the Ward line steamer Merida. She was sunk in the summer of 1911 about fifty-five miles off Cape Charles Lightship when she was rammed by the freight steamer Admiral Farragut. The Merida carried over 300 passengers, all of whom were taken off by the Farragut and transferred to the Old Dominion steamer Hamilton, which landed them in Norfolk.

Among the passengers were a number of Americans fleeing from Mexico. They had with them the savings of their lifetimes and these savings they say, were locked in the safe in the office of the purser of the Merida. When the steamer was struck the water poured through the hole in her starboard side so fast that they did not have time to save any of their valuables.

The Merida also carried silver bullion said to have been worth over \$200,000. The purser's safe is filled with money and jewelry. The vessel's cargo was fruit.

### Treasure-Hunting Fleet.

The treasure-hunting fleet is composed of the yacht J. H. Beckwith, the trawler Fearless and a barge used by divers. There are about a dozen divers in the outfit, including F. Nilsson, who is said to have been the first to explore the bottom of the Atlantic near where the Merida went down.

Capt. C. Hermanson, who is in command of the flagship of the fleet, is of the opinion that if the Merida is found she will be some miles away from the spot where she went down.

Divers have explored two miles of the Atlantic ocean, it is stated, and have found several wrecks, one of them apparently a steamer, but it was not the one they sought. Divers sent up portions of a deckhouse of the steamer. There was nothing of value in the wreck.

Captain Stillson says he has not given up hope of finding the Merida and is not disappointed at not finding the vessel at the point where she went down.

"A vessel seldom goes right straight to the bottom when she sinks," he says, "especially where the water is deep and the currents strong." It is possible that the Merida is ten miles away from the spot where she went down. Under currents sometimes carry a vessel miles away before she settles on the bottom. And after she strikes the bottom, shifting sands sometimes carry a vessel several miles.

Captain Hermanson also is of the opinion that the Merida will be found, and the divers, too, are confident.

The men tell of encountering strange-looking objects under water, of stumbling against a sunken vessel, or meeting a shark face to face.

### Search Is Thorough.

After searching five miles in one direction, the treasure hunters will return to the spot where the Merida went down and search five miles in another direction. After they have gone north, south, east and west for miles.

### LEADER OF INDIAN TROOPS



Sir Pertab Singh is one of Britain's most loyal colonial sons. He is an Indian of highest birth and is in command of the Indian forces fighting for the allies on the western front.

### GIRL IS EXPERT CARPENTER

Young Lady Makes About All the Furniture Needed in the Household.

Alameda, Cal.—When anything is needed in the furniture line in the von Manderscheid home in Alameda, they call in Florida and say:

"Father needs a shaving cabinet," or "Mother needs a mahogany bedroom set," or "Little sister needs a high chair."

five miles, they will continue the search for five miles further in the same directions. If she is not found before winter comes on it is probable that the search will be abandoned until next spring.

The expedition is a costly one. The divers are paid as high as \$10 a day. It is said that Captain Stillson will receive a big bonus if the expedition is a success, and "fair" compensation if it fails.

In marine circles it is believed that the Merida will not be found. It is figured that in the five years since she went down she is probably completely covered by sands, and divers might walk over the spot where she lies without knowing it.

The treasure hunters come to Norfolk and Newport News about every two weeks to take on fuel and supplies.

### \$20 REWARD FOR \$400 RING

Honest Waitress Found It and Returned Jewel to Mrs. Whitworth.

Colorado Springs, Colo.—Luck was with Mrs. Rose Whitworth, wife of a Tulsa (Okla.) business man, when she dropped a diamond setting from her rings in the McRae cafe.

The gem weighs two karats and is valued at \$400. It slipped from the owner's hand while she was at lunch. Three hours later she returned, having missed the jewel, and Billy Jones, manager, was able to return her diamond by reason of the honesty of the waitress, who found it on the floor.

The waitress is richer by \$20 and Mrs. Whitworth is happy, the diamond having been a prenuptial gift from her husband.

### GOLD IN CHICKENS' CROPS

Auburn, Cal.—Thomas Gamlin of the Mount Vernon district has some very valuable chickens. Recently he killed two and found gold nuggets in their crops valued at about one dollar.

As the chickens were penned in a small space on the hillside Gamlin immediately began investigations and soon unearthed a quartz ledge which he will further prospect.

## CABLE IN USE HALF CENTURY

Cyrus W. Field's Faith in Ocean Telegraphs Was Justified in 1866.

## EARLY PROJECTS FAILURES

Since July 27, 1866, New World Has Been in Continuous Communication With Old by Submarine Cable.

New York.—It is a little more than a half century since the completion of the first permanent Atlantic telegraph, observes the New York Evening World. Since July 27, 1866, the new world has been in continuous and uninterrupted communication with the old world by means of the submarine cable. The final success was achieved only after several disheartening failures. As early as 1843 Prof. Samuel F. B. Morse suggested the possibility of an Atlantic telegraph line.

Just a decade later Cyrus W. Field, a wealthy merchant, became interested in a plan for laying an underground cable across Newfoundland and in the following year, 1851, he secured the cooperation of Peter Cooper, Moses Taylor and others in a scheme for a trans-Atlantic cable. The manufacture of 2,500 miles of wire was completed in 1857 and the task of laying it was commenced at Valentia, Ireland, in August of that year, two American and two British vessels being engaged. After a few miles had been laid the cable snapped. This was repaired, but after 300 miles of wire had been put down it snapped again and the vessels returned to Plymouth.

### Success Short Lived.

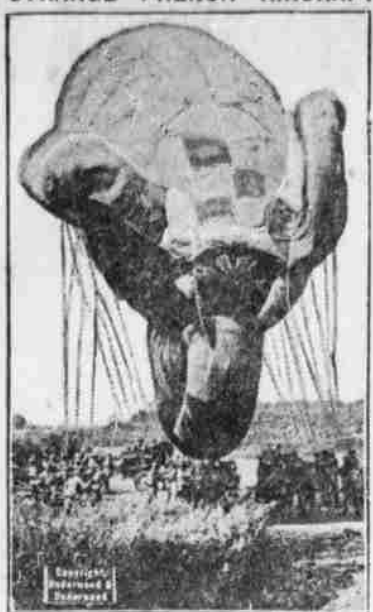
A storm caused the failure of a second attempt, but the third voyage, in 1858, was successful, and the junction between the two continents was effected by 2,059 miles of wire stretching from the Irish coast to Newfoundland. Messages were exchanged between Queen Victoria and President Buchanan and there was great rejoicing on both sides of the ocean.

The jubilation proved premature, however, for in a short time the cable ceased to work and was branded a failure. The faith of Field did not waver, and although the Civil war prevented an early revival of the project, in 1865 a new company began the laying of another cable. The famous vessel, the Great Eastern, was dispatched to Ireland with the wire, but again the project ended in failure.

Mr. Field then launched the Anglo-American Telegraph company, and in July, 1866, the Great Eastern steamed

Florida goes out to her workshop and with hammer, saw and chisel the need is supplied and the family hasn't paid out a cent except for the lumber. Miss Florida von Manderscheid is an expert carpenter and joiner. She takes to tools as the ordinary girl takes to curling irons. She has been hammering away for several years now, and has never so much as knocked the beauty parlor finish off her thumb nail. She made a mahogany library table of such craftsmanship that Principal George C. Thompson of the Alameda

## STRANGE FRENCH AIRCRAFT



The censor has permitted the publication of this photograph of a French war balloon, called a "sausage" at the front. This strange-looking aircraft is used for observation purposes.

### Bullet Between Vertebrae.

Fort Wayne, Ind.—Surgeons successfully operated the other day on Pete Anastropfe, an Assyrian, to remove a bullet that had lodged between vertebrae in his neck when he was shot in the mouth at Van Wert, O., some weeks ago, and Anastropfe will recover, the surgeons said, after having been constantly in danger throughout the five weeks. The position of the bullet was such, it was said, that had Anastropfe moved his head violently he would have died. The bullet was touching the spinal cord and the operation was regarded as extremely serious.

### Characters of Birds.

The federal government is investigating birds with a view to discovering whether they are harmful or helpful to mankind. Of forty or fifty species, exclusive of hawks and owls, thus far put through this scientific third degree, only one has been found harmful—the English sparrow. This quarrelsome little creature is an unqualified nuisance. All other birds of the group mentioned are either innocuous or helpful, and many of them are worth well-nigh their weight in gold to the farmer and fruit raiser.

Of hawks and owls there are 75 species found in this country, only six of which are injurious. The rest either do no harm at all, or more than make up for occasional depredations by their services in keeping down vermin.

### STORM HALTS THE FUNERAL

Heavy Rain Kept Persons in a Chapel All Night in Texas Cemetery.

Hillsboro, Tex.—Sixty-three persons who gathered in the chapel at the Brandon cemetery to attend the funeral of Mrs. Knuickles, were forced to spend the night there, being marooned by the heavy rainstorm which necessitated postponing the interment until the next morning.

During the funeral service the rain started and fell in such torrents that it formed little ditches which ran into the grave and completely filled it with mud and water. The grave was cleared in the morning and the interment held. It was too late to return home when the rain stopped, so those gathered for the funeral sent out and got some coffee and sat up all night so as to attend the burial the next morning.

### GIRLS CLIMB HIGH CHIMNEY

Colorado Young Ladies Do the Fly Act on Dare From Male Companions.

Eaton, Colo.—Climbing hand over hand to the top of the smokestack on the sugar factory here, five young women of Eaton did the human-fly act on a dare by their male companions, who promised them a box of candy each if they accomplished the feat. The smokestack is 231 feet high and is built of cement. The women not only climbed to the top but returned to the ground in order without assistance from any of the men, some of whom had attempted the feat and failed.

The young women who got to the top of the stack were Misses Martin White, Irene Pixler, Lottie White and Madeline L. M. Steneking and Anna Bickie.

### STORM LEFT MANY SNAKES

Six Are Killed on One Lawn in Texas After the Hurricane Passes.

San Antonio, Tex.—They're swatting snakes at Rockport now.

Col. Frank Holland killed six on the lawn on the lot on which his cottage stands near Rockport after Friday's hurricane, according to a report.

"Some of the snakes were rattlesnakes and were at least four feet long," it was said. "Colonel Holland and a neighbor were preparing to go fishing when the storm broke."

### Drinks Act Like Magic.

St. Louis, Mo.—"Where am I?" asked Harry McStravick, thirty-one years old, when he came to at the city dispensary after Sergeant Peters found him in a stupor in front of 1512 North Leffingwell avenue. "St. Louis?" he exclaimed, when his query was answered. "I'd like to know how I got here. The last I remember I was leaving home in New Orleans and starting for a show." McStravick said he had taken one or two drinks in New Orleans.

High school threw out the one he already had and bought Florida's.

Florida has made, among other articles, two large mahogany library tables, a walnut china closet, a shaving cabinet, equipped with a bevel mirror; a gun rack which looks like a china closet, piano bench, tabouret, cozy-corner seat and a doll's chair. She is her own designer.

Electric burglar alarms surround the treasury at Washington and are tested every fifteen minutes, day and night.

## PRAYER FLAGS OF TIBETANS

When They Flutter Pleas of The Devout Ascend to the Omnipotent.

Encircling the buildings of Lhasa, Tibet, is the Sacred road, merely to walk along which absolves the mortal from all earthly sins, and many pilgrims prostrate themselves for its entire length, thus securing everlasting happiness in their future life. John Claude White writes in the National Geographic Magazine.

The most interesting portion of the Sacred road is where it runs through some sharp limestone rocks, carved deeply with figures of Buddha painted in many colors.

From the rocks prayer flags are suspended on lines running to an island in the river. These prayer flags are universal in Tibet, and so long as they are moving they are recording prayers for the benefit of those who put them up.

All devotees, men and women, walk, always turning a small hand prayer wheel, filled with minute prayers, printed on thin paper; and large prayer wheels, filled in some cases with tons of paper prayers, are set revolving by water power. Smaller ones are turned by the hot air rising from butter lamps.

Single prayers, printed on thin cloth, are strung vertically on poles or stretched across open spaces to flutter in the wind and thus send millions of prayers vibrating toward the Omnipotent for the benefit of someone's soul. They are most picturesque. An old lama I once questioned on the subject told me "that if the person turning the wheel truly believed that by doing so he was accumulating merit, it would certainly count as a meritorious action."

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The moral seems to be that when in doubt about the character of a bird, give it the benefit of that doubt. The chances are about fourteen to one that even the suspected hawk or owl is a friend in disguise, and other feathered creatures, with the single exception of the sparrow, are just and righteous altogether.

### Zanzibar's Exile.

The dethroned sultan of Zanzibar, Alihan-Hamoud, who now lives in Paris, is a pensioner of the French government. He claims to be a descendant of Mahomet, but he has, it is feared, in his new environment, ceased to be a truly good Mohammedan. He is called by his intimates Raschid, which is intended to hint that like Haroun-al-Raschid, of the "Arabian Nights," he is not averse to nocturnal adventures among the infidels of Paris, that is, to what is known in plainer English as "slumming." In order to gratify his personal taste while in some sort paying homage to the tenets of the prophet, it is said that when he seats himself at table, he is careful to place the koran beside his plate and with eyes turned skyward or murmurs in Arabic: "O holy prophet, may thy koran protect me!" after which he indulges to his heart's content in wine and pork chops.

### Looking Within.

Carlyle said: "Religion is a reawakening of thine own self from within." How many refuse to look at it that way and keep snatching at exterior things to make their lives better. None ever succeed, and yet nearly all our great institutions of learning, religion, civic and social progress are built upon the idea that life is merely an accretion—the sway of outside things. These are necessary. A spirit cannot be unfolded without them. The inherent force is the main thing. Life is a failure without it. And what is this divine energy that originates all good? Its existence can be proved only by its fruits, which are kindness, gentleness, courtesy, helpfulness, love, peace, long suffering, joy—these are the fruits of the spirit and are so inseparable from it that they may be regarded as the spirit itself. These make the spirit visible.

### Original Home of Welshmen.

Jutland was probably the original home of our Kymric ancestors as well as (at a later period) of some so-called Saxon invaders. It was peopled in classical times by the Cimbr, identified by ethnologists with the Germans magnanimously declined to annex Jutland with Schleswig-Holstein. It was then considered a worthless waste of moors, sand dunes and marshes. But the industrious Danes have transformed what one English traveler styled "a Godforsaken wilderness" into the most prosperous pastoral country of western Europe.—Westminster Gazette.

### German Women Workers.

Women workers in Germany are proving a success as substitutes for men at the front. It is believed that the training now being obtained by a large body of women in work ordinarily done by men in factories, offices, banks, etc., will be valuable when peace is restored in bringing over the effects of the war on various German industries, enabling them to reach normal conditions more rapidly.

### Counsel Disclaimed.

"You shouldn't allow the little things of life to disturb you."

"I don't know about that. A germ is about the littlest thing I know of."

## INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Acting Director of the Sunday School Course of the Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.)

### LESSON FOR OCTOBER 1

#### PLOT THAT FAILED.

LESSON TEXT—Acts 23.

GOLDEN TEXT—They shall fight against thee; but they shall not prevail against thee; for I am with thee, saith Jehovah, to deliver thee.—Jer. 1:18.

The stirring events of this lesson occurred in the Castle Antonia and the Sanhedrin hall, near the temple court of Jerusalem; also in Caesarea, the Roman capital of Judea, on the Mediterranean coast, in the year A. D. 57, just at the close of Paul's third missionary journey. The lesson pictures two successive days of strange adventures in which Paul was concerned, a narrow escape and the unexpected providences used in his deliverance. The day was inaugurated by Paul's magic words "I am a Roman citizen," which caused the commander, Lysias, to release him from the threatened scourging, and made him more than ordinarily careful in his treatment of Paul.

I. Before the Elders (vv. 1-12). By referring back to chapter 21, v. 13, we find the charge which really underlay all of Paul's trouble, his preaching in the name of the Lord Jesus. Paul's defense is interesting. He gives us a rehearsal of his Christian life, laying emphasis upon its blamelessness and the fact that he is not an apostate Jew. The high priest speaks to silence him, but not gently. Although Paul for a moment seems to give way to his justifiable indignation, he quickly reveals his reverence for the rulers of the people. He then divides the sanhedrin. Read carefully chapter 22:6-7, and compare with verses 17 and 18. The sanhedrin could not explain this testimony of Paul, and were seeking to put aside the whole question. An interesting discussion would be to consider the insult to Paul. Was his indignation right and rightly expressed? Another question, the matter of Paul's apology. Just for what did he apologize? Is it ever wrong to speak evil of rulers? These were indeed days of stress and storm. Was Paul justified in dividing the sanhedrin in order to conquer their opposition to him? Again, how God used these incidents in the furtherance of the gospel's a suggestive lesson for us all. It has been hinted that Ananias was not in his priestly garments, and therefore perhaps not readily recognized by Paul. Paul may never have seen him, as he was elected high priest after Paul had left the council. It is interesting to note that it is not said that anyone struck Paul or that Paul did not apologize for his words or deny them to be true, but only for their being spoken to the high priest. Read in this connection what Christ said to the Pharisees (Matt. 23:27). Paul apologized because he had broken the law found in Exodus 22:28. In the trial of Christ one of the officers struck Jesus with the palm of his hand, whereupon Jesus answered him, saying: "If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil, but if well, why smitest thou me?" On the other hand, when Jesus was ill-treated by the common soldiers, he opened not his mouth. Was Paul one "who was angry and sinned not?" (See Eph. 4:26). Our danger is not so much in the possession of a temper, but in our lack of controlling it.

#### II. The Plot and Deliverance (vv. 12-35).

Paul's prospect was not a pleasant one. In his darkness God appeared to his faithful servant to cheer him (v. 11). Perhaps Paul was tempted to think he had made a mistake in coming to Jerusalem over the protests of his friends, but evidently the Lord heartily approved of his testimony there. A dangerous conspiracy was forming against him, but God was, as he always is, beforehand with his comfort and preparation for the crisis. We have often speculated as to what became of the forty men who entered into it (see v. 12)—whether they actually lived up to their oath. If they did, they must have died of starvation. They were determined men, willing to go any length, and fanned they were doing the will of God. There is no more dangerous man than he who fancies that he must be the judge as to who are God's friends and who are his foes, and that he is the appointed executioner of God's judgment. The plot was well laid, and seemed certain of success, but it failed miserably. (See Psalm 2:1-4; 64:1-10; Isaiah 41:10). The wicked, who leave God out of their plans, no matter how cunningly they plot, are doomed to failure (Rom. 8:31). These plotters co-operated with the priest. Ecclesiastics have often descended to the lowest villainy. Men are not murdered today, though their reputations are often blasted by unprincipled and hellishly impelled professed followers of the lowly Nazarene. Paul had friends in this city. His nephew's discovery and revelation, and the gentle soldier, a colonel, offered his deliverance. In the boy's heart there must have been great admiration for the uncle. It would be well for teachers of boys to have them repeat in their own language this boy's story. Paul was not safe in Jerusalem. The Roman governor recognized the nature of the conspiracy, and the desperate character of the Jewish fanatics, and therefore sent him under a strong guard to Caesarea, which was reached after a journey on horseback, lasting through the night and the following day.

The twenty-third Psalm is a personal possession for every Christian. Again and again it has been pointed out that if the first verse began, "The Lord is a shepherd," it is not likely that men and women and children for 8,000 years would have counted it one of their priceless possessions. But the phrase is "The Lord is my shepherd."